



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

NOTE TO ART. V. NO. CCIII.

THE Editors of the North American Review have received the following letter from the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department:—

“BUREAU OF ORDNANCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, 26th May, 1864.

“GENTLEMEN:—In the article on the Navy of the United States, published in the April number of the North American Review, I find (page 463) the following statement: ‘It appears from the evidence of the present Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department, that at the Norfolk Yard there were seven hundred and sixty-eight guns, according to the returns made to the Ordnance Bureau. In the Report of the Senate Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances attending the surrender of this station, it is said that other evidence goes to show quite conclusively that there were in the Yard, at the time of the evacuation, at least two thousand pieces of heavy ordnance, of which about three hundred were new Dahlgren guns.’

“The statement given at page 6 of my Report* (herewith enclosed) was carefully made up from the records of the Bureau, and it shows that the total number of guns of all calibres belonging to the Navy in March, 1861, was 2966. Now of this number 768 were in the Norfolk Yard when it was evacuated, and I so stated [as appears from the above extract] in my evidence before the Committee. This statement of mine was corroborated by the Rebel reports of the ordnance and other property found by them when they occupied the Norfolk Navy Yard.

“I desire to call attention to this fact, merely as a matter of historical record; for if there were 2000 guns in the Navy Yard at that time, it would only leave 411 to be divided among the other six yards, because there were, according to official reports, 555 guns afloat on board ship. Again, in March, 1861, the total number of heavy Dahlgren guns on hand was only 356; and if 300 of these were lost at Norfolk, whence did the Navy obtain the Dahlgren guns which at that time composed the batteries of the Minnesota, Colorado, Wabash, Roanoke, Niagara, Cumberland, and Powhatan,—in all, 212 guns of that model,—besides others that were mounted in the Mississippi, North Carolina, &c., and parked in the other Navy Yards?

“I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

“H. A. WISE,
“Chief of Bureau *ad interim*.

“Editors of North American Review, Boston, Mass.”

[The conclusion of the Senate Committee, the correctness of which Captain Wise denies, is to be found on page 2, Senate Rep. Com., No. 37, 37th Congress, 2d Session.]

* Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, October 20, 1863.